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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Political Information: Soviets Give Passive
Support to Planned Student Demonstration

ORIGIN

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DATE:

INFO:

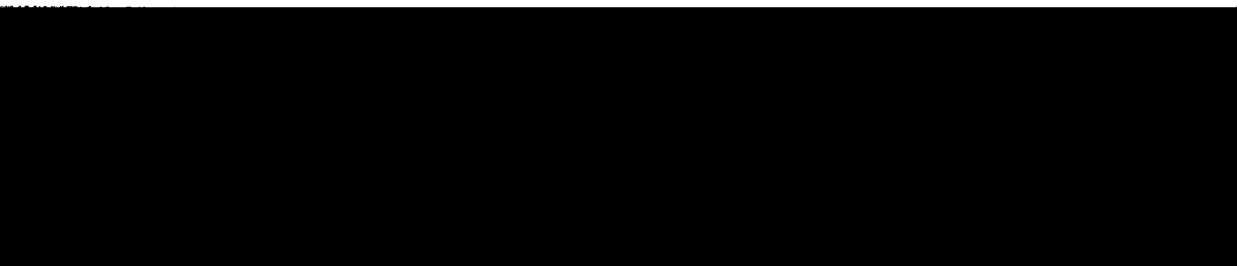
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SUPPLEMENT

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1. K.G. Ershov, Secretary of the Tientsin Soviet Consulate, called A.I. Serebrennikov, member of the Committee of the Soviet Citizens Association, to inform him that a general strike against the Chinese government was being planned by students in Tientsin. Ershov instructed Serebrennikov to inform the leaders of the students that armed action on the part of the Soviets was out of the question.
2. On 30 May after an interview with a Chinese representative from the Committee for the strike, Ershov informed Serebrennikov and Rodavsky, chairman of the Tientsin Soviet Citizens Association, that the strike was to take place and that police counter-action was unlikely. Note: Arrests of student leaders by police in the chief university cities prevented the strikes from materializing on 2 June.)
He also told them to issue instructions to agents to create panic among the European residents of Tientsin. He stated that he had information that U.S. troops would be flown into Tientsin if the rebellion became serious.
3. On 31 May a circular letter was sent by the Soviet Consulate to the Soviet Labor Bureau and the Soviet Chamber of Commerce recommending that all business houses remain closed on 2 June when the strike and demonstration was to take place. Soviet business men were also told to influence other foreign firms not to open their places of business.
4. Consul General I.F. Kurdikov issued instructions that Soviet citizens were not to interfere with the strike but should cooperate only by closing their businesses on 2 June. On the night of 31 May the Soviet Consulate and Soviet Citizens Association buildings were guarded all night by special guards consisting of seven persons to each shift. During the night several Chinese were received by Serebrennikov and Varfolomeev at the Soviet Association.
5. On 2 June Serebrennikov complained to Kurdikov because he had given Soviet merchants permission to use their own judgment on the closing of their businesses, with the consequence that all had opened to avoid blacklisting by the Chinese police. Kurdikov stated that the change of orders had come from "some agreement between high headquarters and the Chinese Communists".

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☒

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